Love Sux.

Getting **** Blocked By Covid.

The year was 2020. The year was starting out great. Parasite had just won an Oscar and I was getting on student shoots. One student director was an incredibly imaginative young woman with chemistry that just fit together. We would talk about the production plans, and easily get sidetracked with shared interests, philosophy, and sitcoms we both enjoyed. It didn't take long for a crush to develop. It didn't take long for me to develop a big crush. Our relationship was semi- (more than semi) professional. (and I had never successfully asked someone out before) so I was very nervous and cautious about asking them out. After several weeks of working with them, I got more comfortable with them. And I made plans. March 15, 2020, I was going to ask her out. March 13, Covid is declared a national emergency. The school is shut down, along with most public activities. She is kicked out of her dorm, and moves back in with her parents, and the same goes for me. It's a scary time, and all the courage I worked up to ask her out has been thwarted.

But there is hope. We were work buddies. I messaged her. Asked if she wanted to write any scripts or even make movies over the summer. She said yes. We met on two Zoom calls to discuss ideas, and also just talk. I was going to try again. Ask if she would be up for a virtual date. Then, on the third scheduled zoom call, I got radio silence. I didn't hear from her again until the end of the summer.

Then, right before school started up, I got a message. The Summer of covid was not kind to her. It wasn't to any of us. She went into depression. Stopped socializing with people. But she was out of the slump and ready to work again. At first I wasn angry. I was so excited to work with her. I was so excited to maybe have someone say yes to that question. It all got put on a backburner thanks to Covid depression. I felt like if she had just outreached to me, we could have thought of something. I felt like maybe if I reached out to her, mentioned I had my own depression, maybe we would have stayed connected. Helped each other out. It was frustrating it all got postponed.

But I also knew that I still liked her. And I still wanted to work with her. So we agreed to do another zoom call, and this time, I wasn't going to waste time. This time, this zoom call, I was going to ask her out.

The zoom call opened. We went over the greetings. "How was your summer?" "It was bad!" "mine too!" Our conversation naturally went onto film productions. She told me about a production she was on that lost a Production Designer because the director asked her out.

Well now what do I do. She just told a story about a work relationship ruined thanks to someone catching feelings. I can't just turn around and ask her out. It would be the worst timing ever.

Here is my next plan.

I will meet with her on zoom two more times. We can re-familiarize ourselves with each other. I am sure by the 2nd zoom it will be alright to ask her out.

The 2nd zoom meeting comes around. I ask her out, as politely as I can.
“Since we get along so much, Why don’t we go on a date”
“I am so sorry, but a man in the military asked me out yesterday, and we are now exclusive.”

The long journey, filled with postponements and *waiting for the right moment,* All be put me in the place I was at the beginning.

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